

Chase County Commissioners  
 May 9, 2023

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Vice-Chairman Duane Dinnel at 8:00am on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 in the meeting room of the Chase County Courthouse. Commissioner Kurt Bernhardt and County Clerk Wendy Moe were also in attendance. Commissioner Jacci Brown was absent. A copy of the agenda was kept current and available in the office of the county clerk, it was posted to the county website the day before the meeting. The agenda and open meetings act were posted.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dinnel. Duane - yes; Kurt - yes; Jacci - absent. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve claims as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dinnel. Duane - yes; Kurt - yes; Jacci - absent. Motion carried.

PE=payroll exp, TE=travel exp, SU=supply,  
 SE=service, CC=court cost, RP=repairs,  
 PT=parts, L=labor, UT=utility, AP=Appt. Counsel,  
 PS=Prior Service EQ=Equipment JD=Juv Div

ADAMS DRUG	SU	209.80
AFILLIATED BENEFITS CONSULTANTS	PE	50.00
AFLAC	PE	361.09
AFLAC	PE	17.74
AMERITAS LIFE INS.	PE	62.25
AMERITAS LIFE INS.	PE	7961.06
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECH	SE	4282.39
AT & T MOBILITY	SE	614.88
BCBS OF NE	PE	25350.42
BWTELCOM	UT	145.32
CARTER, KARON DENISE	SE	800.00
CHASE CO. TREAS./CAFETERIA	PE	133.32
CHASE CO CLERK	SE	54.00
CHASE CO CDC	CC	36.00
COBBLESTONE HOTEL & SUITES	TE	285.00
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	66.82
CREATING CALM COUNSELING LLC	JD	960.00
DAS STATE ACCTG	SE	448.00
DATASHIELD CORPORATION	SE	140.00
DEVENY MOTORS LLC	PT/L	59.36
EAKES, INC	SU	402.85
EFTPS	PE	13935.64
GALLS OMAHA	SU	80.16
GREAT PLAINS COMM. INC	UT	1511.21
HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOC	UT	193.50
HOMETOWN LEASING	SE	265.15
IDEAL LINEN	SU	164.98
IMPERIAL FAMILY DENTAL	SE	495.00
IMPERIAL, CITY OF	UT	1156.16
JAEGER, JANICE E	SE	1617.00
KEITH CO. TREAS.	JD	833.24
LECC/CA ASSOC.	SE	150.00
MIPS,INC.	SE	1394.14
NACO (DUES)	DUES	1654.63
NE CHILD SUPPORT PMT CTR	PE	320.00
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	1874.62
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	136.67
OPTUM	SE	6.50

OPTUM BANK	PE	183.00
OWENS TRUE VALUE INC	SU	35.99
PANKONIN AG SERVICES INC.	SE	550.00
PRAIRIE STATES COMM.	PT/SE	266.25
PROTEX CENTRAL INC	SE	279.00
REGIONAL WEST MEDICAL CENTER	SE	142.00
RR DONNELLEY	SU	79.67
TODD, DUANE	RE	360.75
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	FUEL	174.92
WESTFIELD PHARMACY	SU	38.78
	<b>Net Payroll</b>	<b>41315.54</b>
	<b>General Fund Total</b>	<b>111654.80</b>
AFLAC	PE	110.16
AJK SERVICES, LLC	SE	612.92
AMERITAS LIFE INS.	PE	5.95
AMERITAS LIFE INS.	PE	938.31
BARGER JOSEPH J	SU	30.00
BOMGAARS	SU	49.68
BWTELCOM	UT	99.32
CHASE CO TREAS./CAFETERIA	PE	40.00
EFTPS	PE	2957.89
GB AUTO SERVICE INC.	PT/L	486.00
GREAT PLAINS COMM. INC	UT	225.69
HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOC.	UT	170.04
IMPERIAL, CITY OF	UT	356.29
STATE OF NE MOTOR FUELS DIV	FEE	60.00
MURPHY TRACTOR	PT/L	1712.54
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	759.59
NMC	PT/L	2614.92
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	157.97
OVERHEAD DOOR SPECIALISTS	PT/L	234.40
OWENS TRUE VALUE INC	SU	127.99
SAPP BRO PETROLEUM INC	FUEL	3355.74
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	FUEL	487.28
WAUNETA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	UT	145.51
21ST CENTURY EQUIPMENT	PT	1827.03
	<b>Net Payroll</b>	<b>16913.85</b>
	<b>Road Fund Total</b>	<b>34479.07</b>
BWTELCOM	UT	278.90
CENTURY LINK	SE	1079.17
E911 Fund Total		1358.07
AT & T MOBILITY	SE	591.81
BWTELCOM	UT	52.02
EAC SUBMISSIONS	SE	68.10
EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS	SU	59.70
GREAT PLAINS COMM. INC	UT	319.83
HARCHELROAD MOTORS INC	PT/L	61.70
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	15.99
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	FUEL	36.70
	<b>Ambulance Fund Total</b>	<b>1205.85</b>
	<b>Grand Total All Claims</b>	<b>148697.79</b>

Correspondence was reviewed from the City of Imperial; commissioners received the City's annual TIF report.

Jacci Brown arrived at 8:06am, Vice-Chairman Dinnel turned the meeting over to Chairman Brown.

John Rundel with Southwest Weed Management was present to request the commissioners sign a letter of support for the Western Republican River Basin Riparian Habitat Improvement Project. Commissioner Brown moved to sign the letter of support for Southwest Weed Management. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Duane - yes; Kurt - yes; Jacci - yes. Motion carried. Chairman Brown signed the letter of support .

Blake Moreland and Rob Schilke were present for the agenda item concerning the grandfathered status of Schilke/New Wave Inc. Feedlot. As part of Schilke's feedlot sits within the City of Imperial's annexed boundary and part of it sits outside that boundary and is subject to county zoning, Blake is requesting any documentation from the county for Schilke feedlot since county zoning regulations went into effect. Discussion of feedlot classification commenced. Board suggested that Blake take his questions to the zoning board. Rob and Blake left the meeting.

Craig Loeffler and Leanne Klein were present for the unfinished business item of Ambulance Specs. Craig provided prices on three units being considered by Imperial EMS; the first on a Chevy chassis for \$395,000; second a Ford for \$401,000 and the third a Dodge for \$404,540.57. Extra specs added to the bid standards for Imperial are 4WD, liquid suspension, and an extra door to store electric stair chair. Craig said they would prefer the Ford as it is most readily available and has full liquid suspension whereas the Chevy is half liquid and half air. Wauneta EMS provided a price of \$429,000 for the unit they are considering, it is also on a Ford chassis with the additions of liquid suspension, electric stair chair storage door, an IV warming plate, oxygen bottle lift and a bumper grill. The quoted price for each unit includes a Stryker powerload cot.

Per the requirements of the ARPA grant funds applied for by each service, the purchase order for each unit must be completed by December 31, 2023 and the unit must be delivered by September 30, 2026. It is estimated that each unit may take up to two years to be completed and delivered. Each ambulance service applied for \$75,000 in grant funds to be used toward the purchase of a new ambulance, with an additional \$49,999 per service to be used for equipment. There is currently \$329,000 in the ambulance sinking fund, \$71,000 would be added to it over each of the next two budget years. There is currently \$91,000 available in the ambulance fund. Each ambulance service indicated that they would be willing to use \$35,000 of their equipment grant toward the Stryker cot in their new units. Considering those funds plus the potential revenue from the sale of the two old ambulances being replaced, the county should be within \$50,000 of the needed funding to purchase two new units.

Craig indicated that the company they are purchasing their unit from could submit this as a State Bid. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to accept the State Bid for Imperial EMS to purchase the new Ford unit, built to the submitted specifications at the price of \$401,000 and for Wauneta EMS to purchase the new Ford unit built to their specifications at the price of \$429,000 contingent on each service receiving the \$75,000 and \$49,999 in ARPA grant funds that they applied for. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Duane - yes; Kurt - yes; Jacci - yes. Motion carried.

Commissioners wanted to address the tabled agenda item of Ambulance Standby pay. Craig said he believes this was brought up as the ambulance is required to be on standby any time the fire crew is out. Leanne indicated that the Wauneta crew is very appreciative of the recent increase in pay and mileage rate that they received and they are not seeking standby pay. No further discussion of this matter.

Assessor Tori Mueller joined the meeting to present the board with the idea of moving away from GWorks website and moving toward a website through Vanguard using Sidwell to provide GIS professional services. Tori plans to have representation from Vanguard and Sidwell available at the May 23 meeting to provide further information for the commissioners' consideration of this. Our current contract with GWorks will be up on June 30, 2023.

County Attorney Joel Burke arrived to present the Catastrophic Illness Leave Donation Policy, prepared per commissioners' request after the last meeting. Commissioner Dinnel indicated he would like the policy to require an employee be employed by the county for 12 months before they become eligible for catastrophic leave. The policy says an employee must have completed their 90-day probation period to be eligible. Commissioners Brown and Bernhardt were both okay with the 90-day policy as written. The policy currently says "not more than 1040 hours per 12 months from the date of catastrophic leave approval may be received by the employee". Commissioner Dinnel indicated that he would like it to be written with a cap of 12 weeks, rather

than 1040 hours. Both commissioners Brown and Bernhardt were agreeable to that change. The policy shall reflect that hours donated may not exceed the employee max time accrued as provided by the County's Employee Handbook. Clerk will maintain hours donated so as not to have individual receiving donated time exceed their max.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the Catastrophic Illness Leave Donation Policy as amended. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Duane - no; Kurt - yes; Jacci - yes. Motion carried.

The commissioner meeting recessed for the Board of Equalization. Meeting reconvened at 10:15.

After review of the NACO Blue Cross Blue Shield annual insurance renewal rates and being informed of the discontinuation of the \$3,350 high deductible health plan, Commissioner Brown moved to continue with the \$600 Deductible with Copay plan that the county is currently on and offer no additional policy in exchange for the previous high deductible HSA plan. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Duane - yes; Kurt - yes; Jacci - yes. Motion carried. Clerk will prepare subgroup application for chairman to sign before submission.

Treasurer Rebecca Bernard was present to add signers on the CD's at Sandhills State Bank in Wauneta. The CDs require two signatures and the Treasurer would like to add her part-time employee Julie Sharp as well as the Chairman of the Board as authorized signers on the account for the CDs to make sure two people will be available to sign, as there is only a ten-day window to get them signed and returned when they come due. Commissioner Bernhardt moved that Julie Sharp and the chairman of the board be authorized signers on the CD accounts at Sandhills State Bank, Wauneta. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dinnel. Duane - yes; Kurt - yes; Jacci - yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to sign the tuition reimbursement agreement with Shawn Jaeger to pay Mid Plains Community College for his EMS class. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Duane - yes; Kurt - yes; Jacci - yes. Motion carried.

Addressed tabled item of the signing of the supplemental agreement for Transit, this agreement was sent from the state to add additional funding to get through the fiscal year as there are not enough allocated funds to fund local transit service through the fiscal year. This agreement allocates additional state and federal funds and would increase the county's required match amount. Commissioner Brown questioned if accepting these funds would cause the county to exceed the limit of federal fund usage therefore requiring a federal audit. Treasurer will reach out to auditor. No action taken on the supplemental transit agreement.

With no further business to come before the board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:34am.

CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

/s/Duane Dinnel – Commissioner District #1

/s/Jacci L. Brown – Commissioner District #2

/s/Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3

ATTEST: /s/Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk